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that if it be comparatively dry, it will attract moisture from the ivory ball, which will consequently shrink and become less capacious, and squeeze the mercury up into the tube; but if, on the contrary, the atmosphere be more humid than the ball, that it will necessarily be enlarged, and thus cause a descent of the mercury.

The following method of producing artificial cold, of apparently an almost indefinite degree of intensity, has been offered to the notice of chemical experimenters. Let a strong cylinder be filled with air, which, by an accurate piston, is subjected to a very considerable pressure; then let the cylinder and its contents be cooled as much as possible, by exposing them to a powerful frigorific mixture, and in this state allow the air to make its escape suddenly through a convenient orifice into a very large exhausted receiver, containing within it the substance to be cooled. In this way, a very enormous reduction of temperature may be, by proper apparatus, easily effected; and since the degree of pressure on the air originally within the cylinder may be almost infinitely increased, it is evident, that the degree of cold which by these means may be produced, is also almost infinite.

*Monthly Magazine.*

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